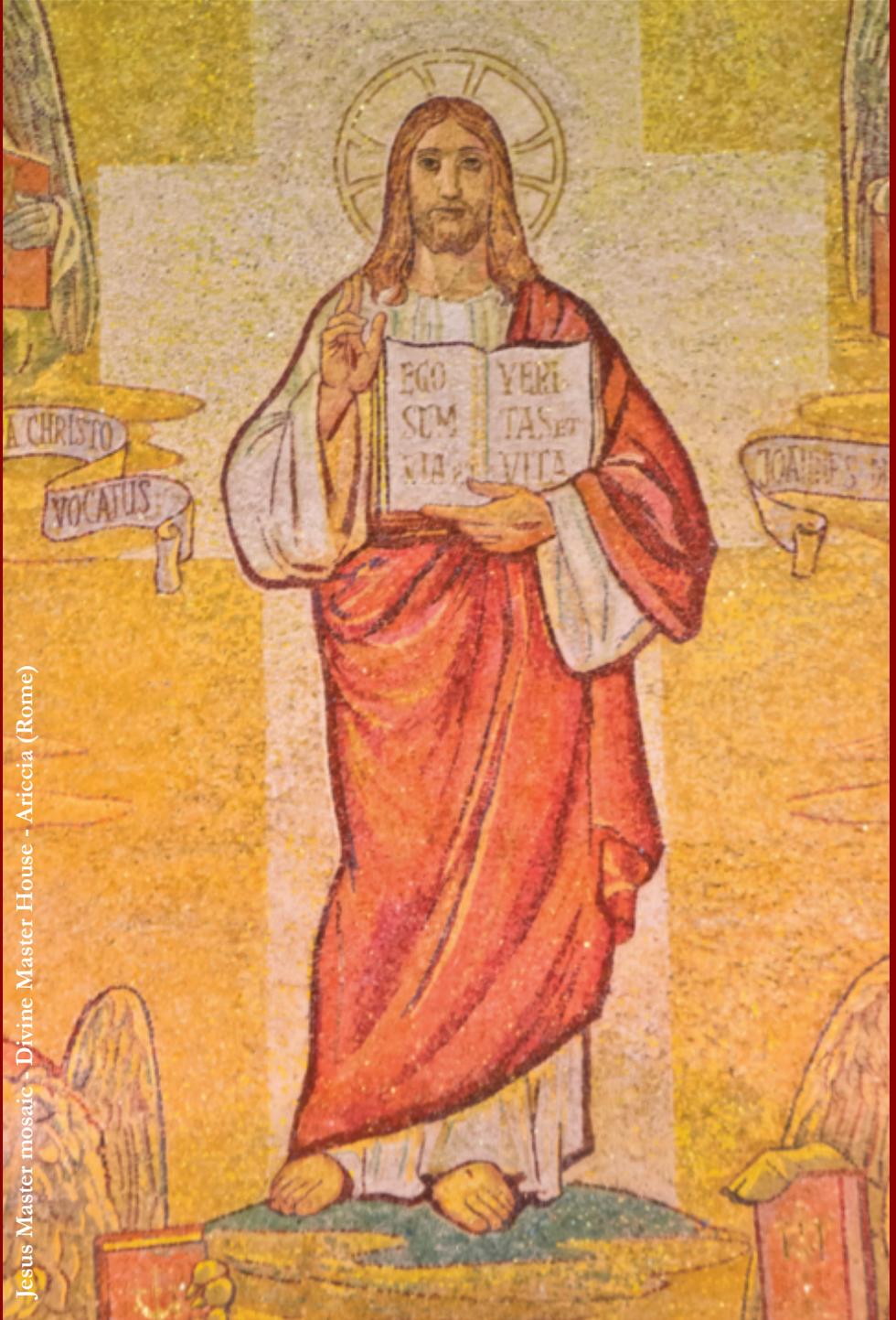


Jesus

Master

Formation Aids
Introduction

International Pauline
Spirituality Centre SSP



Jesus Master mosaic - Divine Master House - Ariccia (Rome)



The international Pauline Spirituality Center (CSP) of the General House of the Society of St Paul, Rome, is sending to our circumscriptions around the world these Formation Aids on Jesus Master to meet an important requirement in our Pauline formation.

The CSP aims at giving in these Formation Aids specific didactic-formative guidelines, based on specific methodology, on the charism of the Pauline Family and in particular on spirituality which is the soul of everything.

These Formation Aids have been prepared as suggested in the Final Document of the Xth General Chapter, nn. 2.2 & 3.1, of the Society of St Paul.

The operative guideline 2.2.1, speaking about spirituality in community life, asks the CSP to prepare “resource materials” which can strengthen in our communities the Pauline method of Truth, Way and Life.

The operative guideline 3.1.3, regarding formation activities, requests the General Govt of the SSP, to supply through the CSP material for a better understanding of our spirituality and of its importance in formation.

Following these two suggestions the CSP is organizing a research on specific terms, persons, dates, places, contents in the materials - written, audio-recorded, iconographic - already published in the Opera Omnia of Fr James Alberione (1884-1971).

We will make use, above all, of texts and images which we consider as common patrimony left by the sole Founder of the Pauline Family, adding to them annotations and suggestions which will lead to a better understanding of them in their proper historical context.

The methodology of the triad “Way Truth Life” will require a constant comparison an integration always to be recomposed of these three Christological themes, or *tria munera* (in latin language), picked up one by one and analyzed simultaneously from the four Gospels, the letters of St Paul and the Acts and contextually studied in relation to the text taken from the writings of Alberione.

In other words we let the three masters speak: Jesus the Master and Lord, St Paul the teacher of the gentiles and the “Primo Maestro”, our Common Founder.

We are suggesting a two-fold reading: one, more dogmatic, with the first series of Formation Aids, starting from Jesus Master and going to Paul and Alberione; in the second series we study more the historical background, going from Aberionian texts to the passages he quotes from Paul and from Paul we arrive at Jesus, Way, Truth and Life.

PAULINE HERMENEUTICS

The “Way, Truth and Life” method is triadic
and needs a dialectic reading of each text
in which are discernible
theses, antitheses and syntheses.

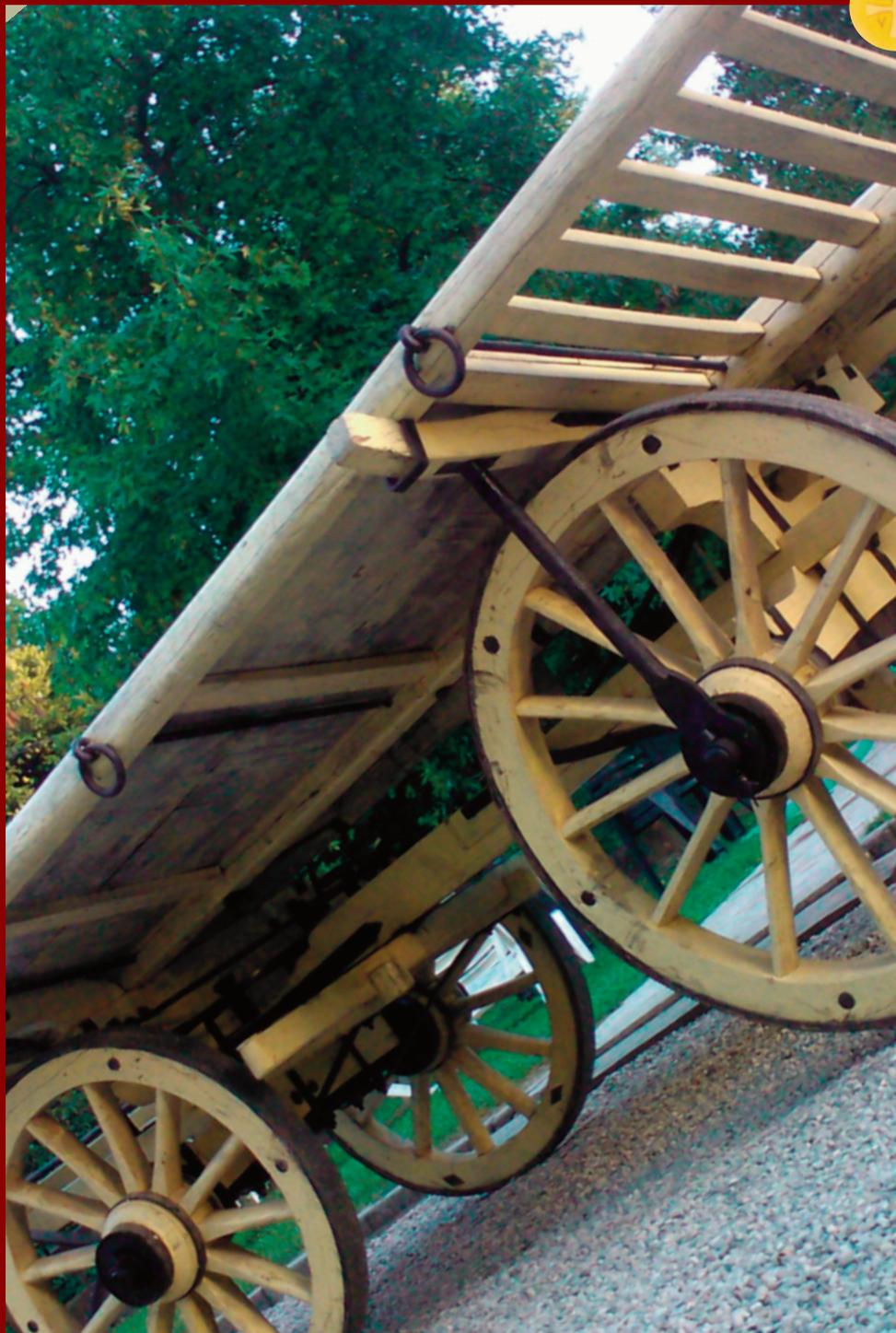
Blessed Alberione was eager to pass from theory (doctrine) to practice (activity, work) and suggests the dynamic and progressive comparison of the “four wheels” of the one “Pauline Vehicle”:

1. PRAYER
2. STUDY
3. APOSTOLATE
4. POVERTY / WORK

Spirituality, According to Alberione, consists
in the integration of the triadic method to the four wheels.

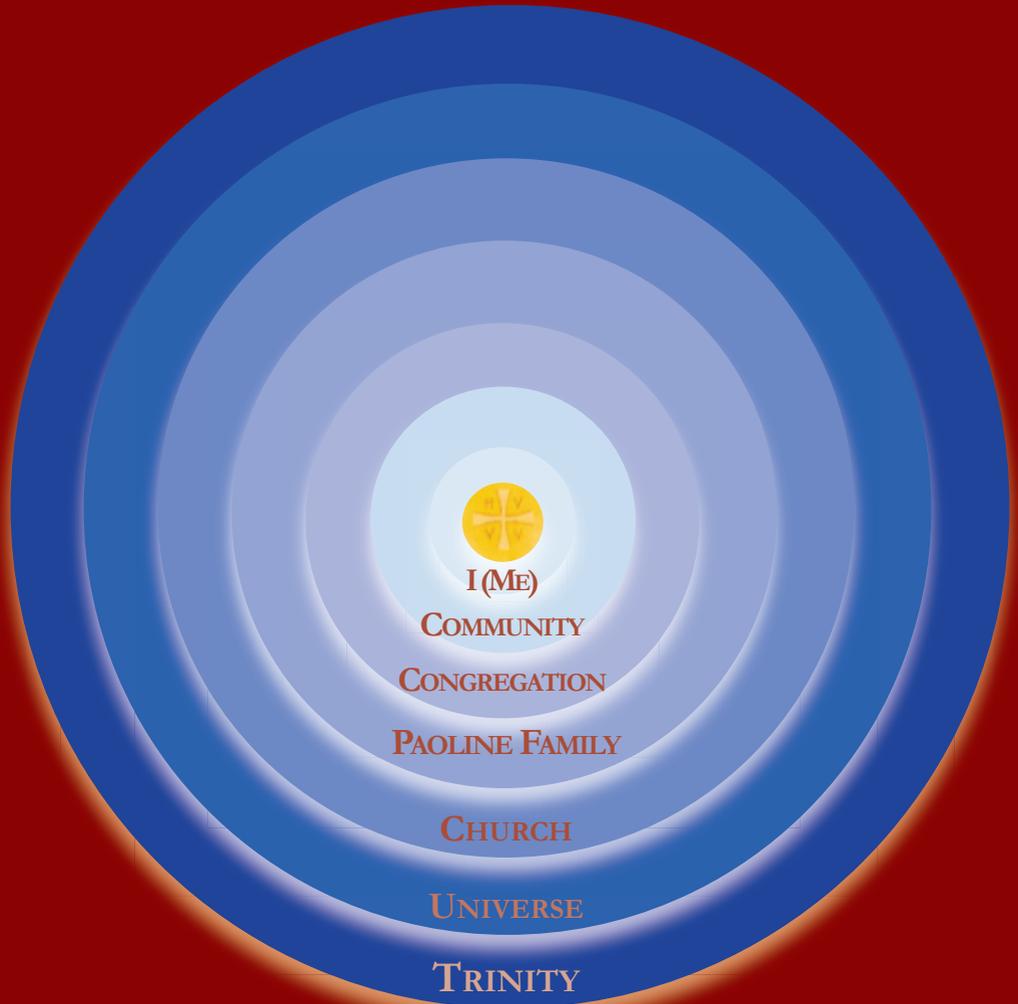
The originality of these Formation Aids lies in reading, together, as a community and as Pauline Family, each text of Alberione, Paul and Christ to become one body and one Spirit in Christ and in the Church to form part of the Family of God: *“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God our Father, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all”* (2Cor 13:13).

In this Trinitarian vision, the mission of Paul and the liturgical, priestly, prophetic and regal vision of Alberione coincide in calling together and for ever the whole of humanity, with the fast and most efficacious means, to form out of all the nations the only Church, the historical body of Christ, the New Adam.



VISION & MISSION
THE CENTER

“JESUS CHRIST WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE IS THE CENTER”





■ **CHRIST IS THE CENTRE OF ME:** “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. This life of mine in the flesh I live in my faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself up for me” (Gal 2:20).

■ **CHRIST IS THE CENTRE OF THE COMMUNITY:** “It is good to see that you have such a deep concern for me not only when I am with you, my children, whom I am in travail again to bring forth until the image of Christ is formed in you (Gal 4:18-19).

■ **CHRIST IS THE CENTRE OF THE CONGREGATION:** “It pleased the Lord that our congregations should be four; we can say: Love of Christ gathered us together into one. Having therefore come together as one, let us see to it that no division happens among us (congregavit nos in unum Christi amor....Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur: ne nos mente dividamur, caveamus” (Ubi caritas et amor, a hymn based on the hymn of St Paul on charity in 1Cor 13).

■ **CHRIST IS THE CENTRE OF THE PAULINE FAMILY:** You may have ten thousand teachers in Christ, but not more than one father; it was I who begot you in Jesus Christ through my preaching the gospel to you (1Cor 4:15).

■ **CHRIST IS THE CENTRE OF THE CHURCH:** “ There are different kinds of gifts, though it is the same Spirit who gives them, just as there are different kinds of services, though it is the same Lord we serve, and different manifestations of power, though it is the same God who manifests his power everywhere in all of us” (1Cor 12:4-6).

■ **CHRIST IS THE CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSE:** “It was his loving design, centered in Christ, to give history its fulfilment, by resuming everything in him, all that is in heaven, all that is on earth, summed up in him (Eph 1:13).

■ **CHRIST IS THE CENTRE OF THE TRINITY:** “The grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God our Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all” (2Cor 13:13).



THE PAULINE LOGO

“Starts always from Bethlehem”

Bl. James Alberione

“GDPH”

Gloria Deo Pax Hominibus

(He describes the purpose of the Incarnation and the Resurrection of Jesus - reconciliation and remission of sins for all)

INPUTS & OUTPUTS



The Gospel & the Means of communication

To read the newspaper (news-developments-words of human beings) along with the Gospel (the Word of God - the eternal message) and vice versa (K. Barth 1886-1968)

The Scripture & the new Spirit

“Having been detached from whatever held us captive so far, now we are freed from the Law, to serve according to the Spirit which is new, and not according to the letter which has lost its force” (Rm 7:6; cfr. 2:29).

Ministers of the New Alliance

“Not that left to ourselves we are able to frame any thought as coming from ourselves; all our ability comes from God, since it is he who has enabled us to communicate his new law to men. It is a spiritual, not a written law; the written law inflicts death, whereas the spiritual law brings life” (2Cor 3:6).

PAUL TRANSMITTED BY ALBERIONE

Go to the Sources

“The Holy Spirit is transfused in the Holy Scripture and in the writings of the Saints. Let us go to the source, let us go for the pure water where it springs, to the source of all that is good: ‘fount, fire and love’, there, in the Holy Spirit” (Retreat, 1934). As Pauline Family, starting from personal and specific charisms, from different ministries and activities, we shall draw from the same sources (Alberione, Paul and Christ).

Be guides and not just followers

“Dearly beloved in St Paul, ... We are not spectators but contestants in the arena, rather team captains to win the laurels” (San Paolo, n. 2, GDPH. Alba, October 1934).

First be a family, to be able to form the Church

“The union of spirit: this is the essential element. The Pauline Family has only one spirituality: to live the gospel faithfully; to live in the Divine Master as He is the Way, Truth and Life, to live in Him as he was understood by his Disciple St Paul” (April 1960, UPS III, 1962, p. 187).

The word of God and the human means

“The apostolate needs technical means. As they are used for the Gospel and for sacred things, they become sacred means like the pulpit or more than the pulpit, because the pulpit does not multiply the words of the parish priest, but the printing machine multiplies the word of the writers and authors: they are therefore holy; abundant fruits are gathered through their quality and their use” (Explanation of the Constitution, 1962, p. 254).

WITH ALL SPEED
TO THE PAULINE MISSION



Photo: V. Stesuri



READING IN 10 STEPS

THE PAULINE ATTENDS DAILY THE CLASS OF THE ONLY MASTER WHO IS THE WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE



1. LECTIO (understood as the practice of the *daily* personal *reading* of the Gospel and the letters of St Paul as a *vademecum*)
2. MEDITATIO (to make of everything the object of meditation and prayer - AD 68)
3. ORATIO (“*Oportet semper orare*” - Lk 18:1)



4. CONTEMPLATIO (Adoring in Spirit and Truth - Jn 4:23)



5. CONSOLATIO (“*Don't be afraid, I am with you*” - AD 152)

6. CONTRITIO (“*Be sorry for sins*” - AD 152)

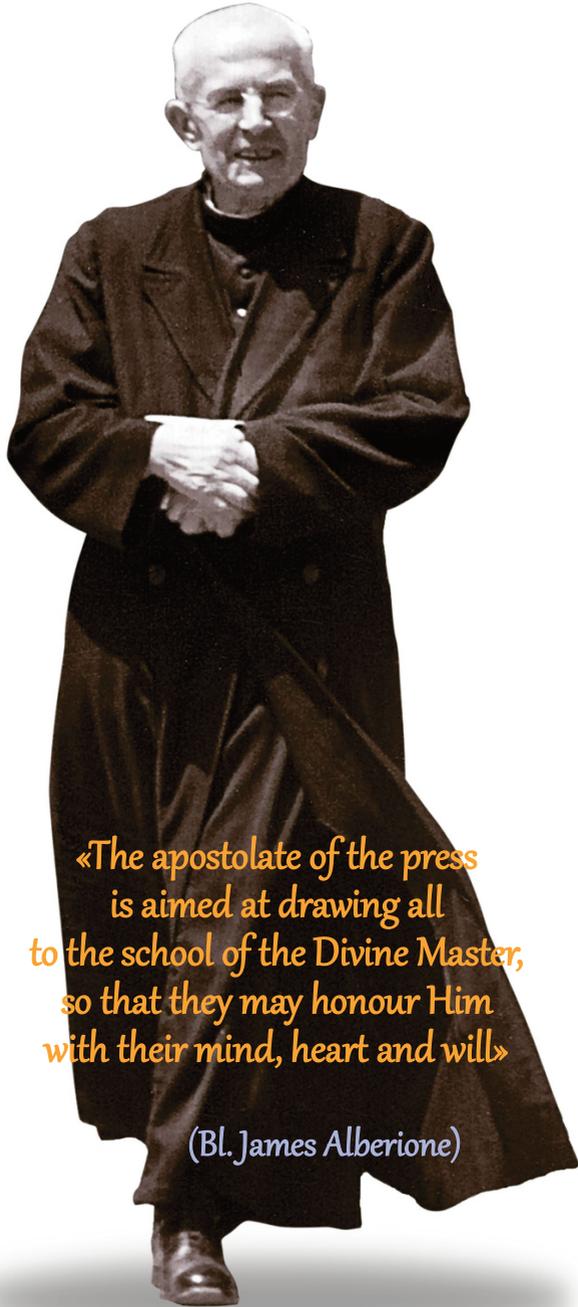
7. DISCRETIO (Discernment of the will of God in the work to be done)

8. DELIBERATIO (to see to it that what is being planned is both morally good and apostolically sound)

9. ACTIO (The apostolic activity: it is redemptive and it provides for the needs of the Congregation)

10. OBLATIO (The Pauline Offertory: offering oneself as a victim)





«The apostolate of the press
is aimed at drawing all
to the school of the Divine Master,
so that they may honour Him
with their mind, heart and will»

(Bl. James Alberione)